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PATENT
Docket Number: 16356.736 (DC-02351)
Customer No. 000027683

REMARKS

Minor changes have been made to the specification. Claims 6, 8, 21 and 22 are amended and Claims 1-25 remain in the application.

Entry of this amendment to the specification and claims prior to Examination is courteously solicited.

No new matter is added by the amendments herein.

Respectfully submitted,

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SEP 13 2002

Technology Center 2600

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MARKED UP COPY OF AMENDMENT PURSUANT TO 37 CFR § 1.121 (b)(1)(iii)

Page 1, line 4 to page 1, line 22.

BACKGROUND [OF THE INVENTION]

[Field of the Invention]

This [invention] disclosure relates to wireless communication technology and, more particularly, to technology for enhancing the capabilities of wireless communications devices, such cellular or PCS telephones, so as to more closely approach the capabilities of personal computers, especially as those capabilities relate to the enhancement of Internet access or access to other sources of data or information.

[Description of the Related Art]

In recent years the personal computer (PC) industry has witnessed a [sea] substantial change in the manner in which PCs are primarily used. During earlier stages in the rise of PC popularity, PCs were primarily [taken] looked to for [of] their computational capacity. Subsequently, word processing, spreadsheet, database and presentation applications began to assume the forefront. Still more recently, the PC has come to be seen as a communications device, and has experienced rapidly expanding use as a communications terminal from which to send and receive electronic messages. Along these lines, consumer acquisitions of PC's have lately been stimulated by the objective of using the PC simply as an appliance to access the Internet. In this mode, much of the embedded capability of the PC lies dormant, and PC users tend to become pre-occupied with information transmission bandwidth, rather than processing power or expandability.

Page 2, line 24 to page 4, line 11.

The above objects, advantages and capabilities are achieved in one aspect of the [invention] disclosure by a docking station for a wireless communications device, such as a cellular telephone. The docking station includes a support structure that includes a cradle for the wireless telephone and that exhibits a planar surface on which a display device is mounted. An internal charging circuit is coupled to a docking station power source for charging the power source. A first connector assembly couples the charging circuit to an external source of electrical energy, in an expected configuration, an AC outlet. A second connector assembly coupled to the output of the charging circuit selectively couples the charging circuit to the cellular telephone in order to recharge the cellular telephone battery. A switch selectively couples the station power source to the cellular telephone when the cellular telephone is docked, so that in the docked mode the cellular telephone operates from the station power source, while its internal battery is recharged by the docking station.

The [invention] disclosure likewise inheres in a docking station, for a wireless communication device, that comprises a docking housing having a planar first surface. A display device is mounted on the planar first surface, and a cradle disposed on the docking housing supports the wireless communication device. A connector electrically couples the docking station to the wireless communication device, so as to transmit both power and data to the device. The station is equipped with a charging circuit and a switch that selectively couples the charging circuit to an internal voltage source. In a preferred embodiment, the switch connects the charging circuit to the internal voltage source when there is not a wireless communication device docked at the station. When a wireless communication device is docked, the switch enables the charging circuit to be coupled to the wireless communication device for charging.

From an alternative perspective, the [invention] present device is an apparatus, for use in a docking station, that selectively supplies power to a communications device that is docked at the docking station. The apparatus comprises a connector for electrically coupling the docking station to the communications device. The connector has at least first and second terminals. A switch having a pole, a first terminal, and a second terminal is operable in response to status information that indicates whether a communications device is docked at the docking station. A charging circuit is coupled to the pole of the switch, and a station power source coupled to the first terminal of the switch. In addition, the apparatus includes means for determining whether a communication device is docked at the station for providing status information as a result of the determination.

In another embodiment, the [invention] disclosure may be exploited as a method of enhancing the capabilities of a wireless communications device in information acquisition applications. According to the method, the wireless communications device, which may be a cellular telephone, is mounted on (docked at) a docking station that comprises a receptacle, in the form of a cradle, for the cellular telephone; a display device; a connector for effecting an electrical interface to the cellular telephone; a docking station power source; a charging circuit; and a switch that operates (effects predetermined connection) in response to information indicating whether a cellular telephone is docked at the station. In order to embellish the limited video display capabilities typical of cellular telephones, the video output of the cellular telephone is coupled to an enhanced display provided by the docking station. Where a cellular telephone is docked, the switch causes (i) the station power source to be coupled to the cellular telephone and (ii) the charging circuit to charge the cellular telephone battery.

Page 4, line 13 to page 4, line 24.

The subject [invention] disclosure may be better understood, and its numerous

objects, features and advantages made apparent to those skilled in the art, with reference to the accompanying Drawings, wherein:

Figure 1A is a front perspective of a docking station including a housing [20] on which is mounted an enhanced video display [22] and which includes a recessed cradle [24] for a portable cellular telephone or other form of WCD;

Figure 1B is a side view of the docking station and depicts a stand [30] for supporting the docking station in an orientation that facilitates viewing of the video display by a user;

Figure 1C is a side view of the docking station that illustrates an alternative support mechanism for the docking station, in the form of a leg assembly [40] that is pivotally attached to the housing; and

Page 5, line 1 to page 5, line 26.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION [OF THE INVENTION]

For a thorough understanding of the subject [invention] disclosure, reference is made to the following Detailed Description, including the appended Claims, in connection with the above-described Drawings. Referring now to Figure 1, the docking station depicted therein is seen to constitute a support structure for a wireless communications device (WCD) (not shown). The WCD may be a cellular telephone, a PCS telephone, a pager, or the like. The support structure, in a preferred embodiment, assumes the form of housing 20 that is characterized by a rectangular cross-section. The housing may have approximate dimension 10" (H) x 15" (W) x 1" (D). Housing 20 has a substantially planar front surface 21 on which is mounted a flat-panel display device 22. Numerous manufacturers supply display devices of wide-ranging

characteristics that are suitable for use in the subject [invention] disclosure. What is primarily significant here is that display device 22 provide performance characteristics, including size and resolution, that are markedly superior to the LCD displays typically incorporated with currently available WCDs. Housing 20 also exhibits a cradle 22 for a WCD. Cradle 22 is shown in Figure 1 as recessed [with] into front surface 21 of housing 20. The precise geometry of the cradle is not deemed critical, and the salient requirement of the cradle contour is to facilitate convenient placement and reliable retention of the WCD. In general, it may be assumed that the cradle is configured to be complementary to the form of the WCD. Also exhibited in cradle 22 is an electrical connector 23. The primary purpose of connector 23 is to effect an electrical interface between the docking station and the WCD. In this regard, connector 23 contains a number of electrical contacts necessary to realize the necessary conductive connections, as specified below, between the docking station and the WCD. Therefore connector 23 will afford the number of contacts 230 *et seq.* that have the physical dimensions necessary for compatibility with a mating connector provided by the WCD.

Page 8, line 5 to page 8, line 21.

A number of approaches may be used to provide docking status information to docking detector 90, and the [invention] disclosure is not limited by specific approach adopted in a particular embodiment. For example, a docking status contact 234 may be provided on interface connector 23. The docking status information, in this context, may simply assume the form of a logic level, a signal, an impedance to GND, or the like that is detected by docking detector 90. Alternatively, the docking station may incorporate a mechanical switch that is actuated when a WCD is docked at the docking station. In accordance with this approach, the mechanical switch may be switch 60, and the need for separate docking detector is largely obviated inasmuch as the docking detection and switching functions are both performed by switch 60.

Accordingly, although there have been shown and described above illustrative embodiments of a Docking Station for a Wireless Communication Device, including what at present is considered the best mode for carrying out the [invention] disclosure, those having ordinary skill in the art will appreciate that various changes and modifications may be made without departure from the scope of the [invention] disclosure. Therefore, the [invention] disclosure is not intended to be limited by the Description above, but is to be defined by the appended Claims, and equivalents thereof.



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MARKED UP COPY OF AMENDED CLAIMS 6, 8, 21 AND 22**PURSUANT TO 37 CFR §1.121 (c)(1)(ii)**

6. (Amended) A [docketing] docking station for a wireless communication device as defined in Claim 5, wherein the first terminal is for selective coupling to a B⁺ bus in the wireless communication device and the second terminal is for coupling to a wireless communication device voltage source.

8. (Amended) A docking station for a wireless communications device as defined in Claim 7, wherein the switch has a second terminal selectively coupled to the second terminal of the connector.

21. (Amended) An apparatus as defined in Claim 19, wherein the second terminal of the connector is configured to be coupled to the wireless communications device power source when the device is docked and wherein the switch operates to connect the pole terminal to the second terminal of the switch in response to status information [indication] indicating that a wireless communications device is docked at the docking station, whereby the charging circuit then charges the wireless communications device power source.

22. (Amended) A method of enhancing the capabilities of a wireless communications device for information acquisition applications, the method comprising [the steps]:

mounting the wireless communications device on a docking station that comprises:

- (a) a cradle for the wireless communications device,
- (b) a display device,
- (c) a connector for effecting an electrical interface to the wireless

communication device,

(d) a station power source,

(e) a charging circuit, and

(f) a switch operable in response to information indicating whether or not a wireless communications device is docked at the docking station;

coupling a video output from the wireless communications device to the display device;

causing the station power source to be coupled to the wireless communications device; and

causing, in response to information that the wireless communication device is docked [a] at the station, the charging circuit to charge the wireless communications device.